



## MONTANA STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

**Meeting Date:** April 21, 2016

**Agenda Item:** Bike Camp Fee and Hell Creek Camping Fees

**Division:** Parks

**Action Needed:** Informational

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 20 minutes

---

**Background:** During both the October and February Park Board meetings discussions were held regarding park user fees for Hell Creek Camping Fees and Bike Camping Fees, respectively. This agenda item provides follow up information for the board's consideration.

Authority to set user fees is delegated to the park board per statute. The Park board then approves a biennial rule which gives the department guidance on what fees to charge. The fee rule will be both directive and permissive in that it provides for some discretion to vary fees.

In the case of Hell Creek, the board specifically asked if camping fees can be raised to better address fiscal shortfalls at the park. This is possible but changes here require careful consideration and would take effect in 2017 season. In the case of the bicycle camping fees, the Fee rule gives discretion to the department to adjust fees either upward or downward. In 2015, the division fielded numerous complaints that bicycle camping fees were too high and is reduce the charge for this opportunity in 2016. Bicycle camping fees were reduced from \$18/night for a nonresident to \$12.

The 2014 Fee rule expires in December of 2016 and the entire fee rule will be evaluated this calendar year beginning in June.

**Public Involvement Process & Results:** If fees are raised, opportunity for public comment will be provided through the board rule making process.

**Alternatives and Analysis:**

This is informational and no recommendations are provided at this point in time.

**Agency Recommendation and Rationale:**

This is informational and no recommendations are provided at this point in time.

**Proposed Motion:**

Not applicable.